

# Cleaning Up a Meth Lab Site

## How to Hire a Certified Drug Lab Decontamination Contractor

An illegal methamphetamine lab has been found on your property. Your local health department requires you to hire a Department of Health (DOH) certified clandestine drug lab decontamination contractor. How do you know which company is right for you? To assist you in making a decision, the following guideline is provided:

### INFORMATION

1. Contact the Local Health Department (LHD) for decontamination requirements specific to your property.
2. Visit the Web sites: [www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/cdl](http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/cdl) and [www.metrokc.gov/health/methlabs](http://www.metrokc.gov/health/methlabs).

### PROCEDURE

1. Use only a DOH certified contractor. A list is available at [www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/cdl.htm](http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/cdl.htm), or from local health departments.
2. Interview 3-5 companies. Don't just choose by location; many companies travel statewide.
3. Receive proof of the following four documents: 1) WA State Dept. of Labor and Industries General Contractor's License; 2) WA State Dept of Licensing Business License; 3) DOH Clandestine Drug Lab Decontamination Contractor's Certificate; and 4) Insurance Coverage.
4. Discuss insurance coverage; General Liability Insurance and Contractor's Pollution Insurance.
5. Compare different contractor's bids for both itemized work that will be done and total cost.

### EXPERIENCE

#### Ask:

1. The contractor for a list of previous cdl decontamination jobs, including references.
2. The local health departments about past performances and verify references.
3. The contractor to explain their decontamination procedure:
  - a. How does this compare to other cdl contractors' procedures?
  - b. Does it appropriately address local health department requirements?
  - c. What is the timeline and date the job will be completed?
4. Yourself what is important: professionalism; knowledge; and experience?

### COST

#### Require the contractor to:

1. Contact LHD for your property's decontamination requirements.
2. Visit the site.
3. Provide an itemized bid that covers LHD's requirements necessary to release property.
4. Clarify additional costs not included in the bid, such as re-cleaning.